Tax Records

Table 17: Changes in Property Holdings of Black Citizens			
	Obs.	Mean	Standard Deviation
Average Tax Value in 1897	1166	322.8885	342.4092
Average Tax Value in 1900	911	334.4566	304.1723
Difference in Tax Value	857	17.99883	144.3791
Lost Property	1226	0.2520392	0.4343608
Average Appreciation	252	115.8135	111.3366
Average Depreciation	100	-137.6	313.6052

Source: Tax records of black citizens in Wilmington, North Carolina in 1897 and 1900. This data was provided to the researcher by the North Carolina's Department of Cultural Resources at the Office of Archives and History

In order to evaluate changes in property ownership, this study utilizes data from the historical tax records for Wilmington, North Carolina. Looking only at black property owners, Table 17. shows that the total number of black property owners decreased from 1166 to 911 after the riot. However, the average tax value of black property holders increased from \$ 322.85 to \$ 334.45 after the riot. This suggests that a good number of individuals that were able to maintain property after the riot held property that was highly valued. Additionally, 252 black property holders experienced an average appreciation of \$115.81. The data also shows that 100 individuals experienced an average depreciation in the value of their property of \$ 137.60.

It is important to note that this analysis does not include white property owners. In order to make any conclusive inferences about the affect of the riot on property holdings, changes in black ownership must be compared with changes in white ownership. Results that use tax data for both the black and white citizens is pending.